

REMARKS

The specification and claims have been carefully reviewed in the light of the Office Action to which this amendment is responsive. By this amendment, claims 10, 13, 15, 26 and 27, which have been indicated as being directed to allowable subject matter, have been rewritten in independent form as new claims 29-33 respectively. New claim 34 is patterned after allowable claim 33, but is directed to the basic nozzle arrangement as recited in original claim 1. Independent claims 1 and 25 have been amended to improve their form and to distinguish even more clearly over the prior art, and new claims 34-40 have been added for more completely covering applicant's invention.

Claims 1-9, 11, 12, 14 and 21-24 have been rejected as being anticipated by Carlson (U. S. Patent No. 2,090,284), and claim 25 has been rejected as being anticipated by Stumphauzer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,737,108). Reconsideration of such rejections is respectfully requested in the light of the foregoing amendments. Applicant has disclosed and claimed herein a spraying system having a spray nozzle adapted for directing a wide lateral spray curtain with substantially uniform liquid distribution throughout the length of the curtain. In the illustrated embodiment, a spraying system is provided which includes a motorized tractor for movement along a spraying path, a supply of pressurized liquid carried by the tractor, and at least one spray nozzle supported by the tractor for directing a wide lateral spray curtain. The spray nozzle includes a nozzle body defining an elongated flow passage having an inlet in for connection to the pressurized liquid supply, and a discharge orifice formed in the nozzle body in communication with the internal flow passage and having a generally inverted teardrop configuration comprising a relatively larger area upper portion and a relatively smaller area lower portion arranged below the upper portion for directing the lateral spray curtain with the substantially uniform liquid distribution, as set forth in detail in the specification. In the preferred embodiment, the discharge orifice is formed in a side wall of the nozzle body between the liquid inlet and a downstream end wall with a long axis of the discharge orifice being disposed in a plane perpendicular to the axis of the elongated internal flow passage of the nozzle body.

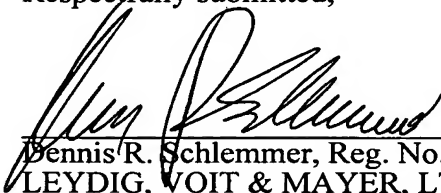
In contrast, Carlson neither discloses a spray nozzle according to the invention, nor appreciates the advantages in an agricultural sprayer, such as set forth in new claim 35. Nor does it suggest a spray nozzle having an elongated inverted teardrop configured discharge orifice with a long axis thereof in a plane perpendicular to the axis of an elongated internal passage of

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Application No. 10/677,448

the nozzle body, as more particularly defined in claims 1 and 25. Stumphauzer et al. also lacks any disclosure or suggestion of the invention as claimed.

From the foregoing, it is believed that the claims as now presented all are directed to features which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art so as to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis R. Schlemmer", is written over a horizontal line.

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